

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 02021 191558Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 /052 W  
-----043307 201128Z /23

R 191455Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3066  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

CONFIDENTIAL ASUNCION 2021

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OAS, EGEN, PORG, PA  
SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 123344

1. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT PARAGUAY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE INFORMAL DIALOGUE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS LITTLE INTEREST IN THE THEME OF RESTURCTURING THE OAS, ALTHOUGH HE IS GLOOMY OVER THE GAP BETWEEN THE THEORY AND THE PRACTICE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM. PARAGUAY HA S NO SERIOUS COMPLAINTS AGAINST U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY.  
HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE ITS PARTICULAR CONCERN.

2. AS WE HAVE REPORTED, PARAGUAY WILL COME BEFORE THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH A RECORD OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN ITS HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. NOGUES, LIKE ALL THE LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS, LOOKS ON THE INFORMAL DIALOGUE AS AN ARENA IN WHICH THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE MUST GRAPPLE FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE VARIOUS SHORTCOMINGS AND CONTRADICTIONS OF U.S. POLICY AS PERCEIVED BY HIS LATIN AMERICAN COLLEAGUES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL NOT WANT TO DISCUSS ITS HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IN THAT

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CONTECT AS IT WILL BE PARAGUAY'S PUBLIC CONTENTION THAT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY SERIOUS PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY AND IF THINGS ONCE WERE WORSE AND NOW ARE BETTER, THEN THE IMPROVING SITUATION CERTAINLY HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH U.S. POLICY OF INFLUENCE. (EVERYONE KNOWS BETTER BUT THIS IS A COUNTRY OF ILLUSIONS WHERE THINGS ARE WHAT THE MAN IN CHARGE SAYS THEY ARE.)

THEREFORE, PARAGUAY WILL KEEP ITS POWDER DRY UNTIL THE IAHRC REPORT COMES UP FOR DISCUSSION.

3. THE ONLY POSSIBILITY I CAN SEE FOR PARAGUAY TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IS IF, AS I CONSIDER VERY POSSIBLE, NO ONE WANTS TO ATTACK THE U.S. ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN FRONT OF THE SECRETARY. IF THAT HAPPENS, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND OTHERS MIGHT ENCOURAGE NOGUES, THE POLISHED, UNDERSTATED DIPLOMAT, TO DELIVER A STATEMENT, PROBABLY PREPARED BY ITAMARATY, EXPRESSING IN REASONABLE AND GENERAL TERMS SOME OF THE DOUBTS AND DIFFUCULTIES LATIN AMERICA HAS WITH THE U.S. EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.  
WHITE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, HUMAN RIGHTS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978ASUNCI02021  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780212-1105  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2644099  
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**TAGS:** EGEN, PORG, SHUM, PA, OAS  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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